

**Testimony of Mary K. Daniel, Parent & Community Volunteer
concerning funding for Regional Action Councils in**

H.B. No. 6824 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING
JUNE THIRTIETH 2017, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR AND OTHER
PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE.

Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services - March 6, 2015

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, Senator Gerratana, Representative Dillon and members of the Appropriations subcommittee, my name is Mary K. Daniel. I am offering testimony in strong opposition to the proposed cuts to the regional action councils.

In my community Allison Fulton, E.D. of HVCASA has worked tirelessly with other agencies and our schools to educate our community about addiction. Her agency's efforts to educate the public with regard to prevention and access to resources for treatment has made the struggle many families face manageable. In some cases, it has saved lives and in more instances, making life livable again.

Many of us are looking at the blight of addiction in a new light thanks to the work of HVCASA. HVCASA has come a long way in debunking the myths that swirl around addiction. Allison Fulton has lent an invaluable element of dignity to this pursuit; I have witnessed her assist people in a variety of situations with grace and humanity and it changed their lives.

This funding is saving lives and healing families and communities. It is money well spent.

Thank you.
Mary K. Daniel
Brookfield,CT